

*Circular to Local Education Authorities
and Governing Bodies of non-controlled
Schools.*

Circular 1378.
4th June, 1926.

All communications should
be addressed to
THE SECRETARY.

BOARD OF EDUCATION,
WHITEHALL, LONDON, S.W.1.

REGULATIONS FOR FURTHER EDUCATION, 1926.

1. The Board announced in Circular 1375 that the principles upon which the Code has been revised would be adopted also in the revision of the Regulations for other educational services. In circulating the annexed Draft Regulations for Further Education it is, therefore, not necessary to repeat the statements made in paragraphs 2 and 3 of that Circular. The proposed new Regulations will, however, differ from the existing Regulations for Technical Schools, which they are to replace, as much in form as in substance, and Authorities will no doubt be glad to have explanations touching the most important points of difference.

2. **Types of Provision to be Recognized.**—The principal characteristics of the existing arrangements for Further Education in England and Wales are multiplicity of character and variety of standard. But each course of instruction now recognized can be referred to one or other of the categories which are shown in the second column of the Schedule which follows the Draft Regulations. In these circumstances, the Board think it convenient that the descriptions given in the first column of the Schedule should now be used in the statistical and other administrative classification of institutions and arrangements. It is intended to include in the official list of "Colleges" those institutions only (not being Art Schools) which are of major importance in the provision of Further Education. No institution will appear in this list unless its circumstances seem to the Board to justify its inclusion, nor, in particular, unless it provides post-secondary full-time instruction in courses of a substantial duration and/or evening instruction for persons over 16 developed to a reasonably advanced point and not so arranged as normally to lead up to still higher courses in some other institution. When an institution is recognized as providing a "College," certain other activities of the institution will, as indicated in the first column of the Schedule, come within that recognition.

3. In the Appendix to this Circular, the Board exhibit side by side the main types of work outside Art Schools, the classification of each under the old Regulations, and the classification in the terms of the new Regulations. As soon as possible after the settlement of the Regulations, the Board will inform each Authority which institutions under its control will be recognized as Colleges, Art Schools, Junior Vocational Schools, Junior Housewifery Schools and Technical Day Classes respectively. The Authority will be invited to indicate which of its Evening Institutes are Junior Institutes as defined in the Schedule. So far as may be necessary they will deal similarly with the Governing Bodies of the institutions which are not under the control of a Local Education Authority. It will be open to the controlling Authority or to the Governing Body to ask the Board to recognize as a "College" an important institution, providing courses of senior standard, i.e., for students over 16, for which such recognition has not been accorded. The Board will consider such applications on their merits.

4. **Administrative Requirements.**—In accordance with the plan on which all revised Regulations are being constructed, administrative directions as to the information, returns and records required, and their submission, will be given separately. In general, the Board desire as great a simplification of procedure as is compatible with the continued exercise of their responsibility for supervision. In this connection they are ready to accept documents already prepared by the Local Education Authority or Governing Body for their own use so long as these furnish the particulars which are indispensable for the Board's administration. In particular, if, in prospectuses of schools, or in separate documents, the Authority or the Governing Body print detailed time-tables of work, the Board will not require the completion of the schedules of courses of instruction which in the past have been submitted in the course of the autumn term.

5. It is, however, important, especially in the circumstances of Colleges and Art Schools, that the Board should receive in the summer an indication of the developments, if any, or other important changes, which are in prospect for the school year which is to open in the ensuing autumn. Forms for general statements of this nature will be issued in due course. As regards evening institutes, the Board will continue the practice of recent years under which the Authority are asked to submit a general statement of this branch of their work. On the basis of the information given by the Authority as to prospective developments, if any, the Board hope to be able to indicate promptly whether they will be recognized. Some inconvenience has been caused in the past because developments have been undertaken without previous notice, and the procedure so far as it is new, is intended to obviate the difficulties which might arise in such circumstances.

6. In order to enable the Board to produce reasonable statistical presentations of the state of Further Education, they will have to ask at the close of each year for a retrospective statement of the work done in it. Their requirements of this kind will probably be much the same as in the past. They will be prepared, however, if the Authorities desire it, to discuss with their Associations the subject of the returns to be required in future.

7. **Educational Requirements.**—The Regulations for Technical Schools in general, and Part II of those Regulations (which deals with Junior Technical Schools) in particular, include many detailed conditions which have an educational intention. The Board now propose, in accordance with the general policy of their new Regulations, to leave to the responsible school authorities a larger discretion in such matters. Their decision on this point is not to be taken as implying that the former conditions were in themselves inappropriate as guarantees for the quality and standard of the work, and school authorities will probably find it advisable to make local rules on certain of the points which will no longer be expressly regulated by the Board, including for example the duration of part-time courses in single subjects and the length of lessons in such courses. The Authority, or Governing Body, will, in general, have to satisfy the Board that arrangements for Further Education are individually maintained on a satisfactory level of efficiency and on a suitable basis of organization. The Board will also require to be satisfied that the arrangements, as a whole, are part of a duly ordered local provision. They propose no longer to maintain a distinction between eligible and ineligible students. But where it may be desired to introduce, or continue, a practice of allowing children attending public elementary schools to be concurrently instructed in Evening Institutes or Art Schools, it will be necessary to satisfy the Board that such arrangements are consistent with proper co-ordination and will have educational advantage sufficient to justify the expenditure which may be incurred upon them.

8. **Controlled Schools.**—Under Article 2 of the Regulations for Technical Schools, arrangements may be made by the Local Education Authority and the Managers of a non-provided school for the "direction" of the School by the Authority. The practical effect of direction is that a directed school receives its public assistance from the Local Education Authority and not from the Board; the Board's assistance in such a case has been given by the recognition for grant of the Authority's contribution to the school. Junior Technical Schools were, however, excluded from this arrangement by the terms of the special Regulations applicable to them. The Board now propose to abolish this distinction, and in future an arrangement for what is now to be described as

"control" will extend to the whole of the Further Education activities of an aided institution. A few important Technical Schools under Governing Bodies have interested both the Local Education Authority for the county in which the school is situated and the Authority for the adjacent county area. These schools have not hitherto been directed by a Local Education Authority. The Board see no reason why arrangements for control should not extend to them, but if local conditions make it inappropriate that either Authority, to the exclusion of the other, should be the controlling Authority, an arrangement may be made for joint control to be exercised in the manner contemplated by Section 4 or Section 6 of the Education Act, 1921.

9. Non-Controlled Schools.—For several years the Board have held that State-aided provision for Further Education of the types which now fall under the Regulations for Technical Schools (as distinct from the Adult Education Regulations and the Regulations for Schools of Nautical Training) should in principle be under the direction of the Authority unless there is a sufficient reason for exemption. Article 13 of the draft Regulations proposes to incorporate the principle as a definite condition of grant. Certain general grounds may justify exemption if it is desired both by the Authority and by the Governing Body. Some schools may be essentially non-local in the sense that they meet special needs arising to a comparatively small extent in the area of any one Authority, or in many other areas than those in which the schools are situated. Though University Institutions are not as a rule non-local in respect of the work which concerns the Board, control of such work by the Local Education Authority will not be required by the Board. But several non-controlled schools now in receipt of grant are outside these two classes. The Board are prepared, in the absence of special reasons for withdrawing recognition at once, to accord recognition to such schools for one more year. During the interval they will investigate each case in consultation with the Governing Body and any Local Education Authority which may be interested. If no agreement for control is made by the parties concerned, the Board will decide, upon the merits of each case, what recognition, if any, for grant as a non-controlled school is to be accorded as from 1st August, 1927.



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APPENDIX.

CORRESPONDENCE OF (A) EXISTING REGULATIONS FOR TECHNICAL SCHOOLS, ETC., WITH (B) DRAFT OF NEW REGULATIONS FOR FURTHER EDUCATION.

<i>Type of Work.</i>	<i>Classification under (A).</i>	<i>Classification under (B).</i>
Part-time day course for young persons (general or general and vocational).	Chapter II.—Evening Schools and similar Schools and Classes.	Day Continuation School.
Evening School specially for young persons under 16 or 17.	Do. do.	Junior Evening Institute.
Other Evening Schools outside the important institutions to which Art. 33 of the existing Regulations applies.	Do. do.	Senior Evening Institutes.
Evening Classes in the institutions to which Art. 33 applies.	Do. do.	College (Evening Classes).
Part-time course of technical instruction (normally for employed persons attending by arrangement with employer).	Do. do.	Technical Day Classes.
Full-time advanced course in Science or Science and Art with or without technological subjects.	Chapter III.—Technical Institution Course.	College (Full-time Course).
Full-time advanced course in Arts.	Chapter III.—Course of Advanced Instruction in Arts.	College (Full-time Course).
Full-time commercial course (post-elementary for pupils under 16 or 17 at end of course).	Chapter III.—Day Technical Classes.	Junior Vocational School.
Full-time domestic course (post-elementary for pupils under 16 or 17 at end of course).	Do. do.	Junior Housewifery School.
Full-time commercial course (post-secondary).	Do. do.	College (Full-time Course).
Part-time course of technical, commercial or domestic instruction for persons not yet in employment.	Do. do.	Technical Day Classes.
Full-time course in preparation for industrial or domestic employment (post-elementary for pupils who will be under 16 or 17 at end of course).	Part II.—Junior Technical School.	Junior Vocational School.

The term "Art Schools" will in general be used under the new Regulations for arrangements described under the existing Regulations as "Schools of Art" (including their Branches) or as "Art Classes." Those arrangements which are recognized under existing Regulations as "full-time Junior Departments" attached to "Schools of Art" will be recognized as "Junior Art Departments" of "Art Schools."

